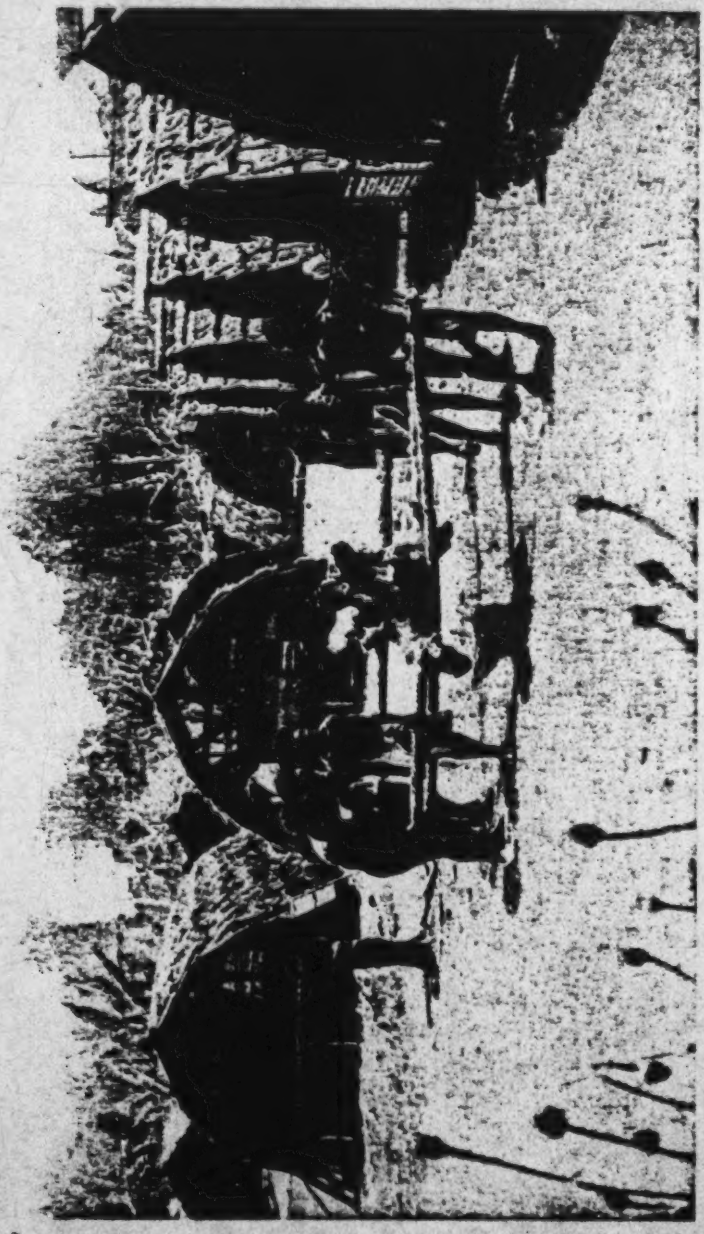
1: Blackwood E-5 (1929-1930) 1935
ON6 Buka ON6
Kurtatchi

342
361
483



KURTATCHU VILLAGE

[facing p. iii]

1: Blackwood E-5 (1929-1930) 1935
ON6 Buka ON6
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Measurements of Dug-out Canoes

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Measurement.	*Small.* ft.	in.	*Medium.* ft.	in.	*Large.* ft.	in.
Max. length from end to end	19	9	23	9	24	5½
Depth, rim to ground when flat on beach	1	3½	1	4½	1	6½
Depth, rim to centre inside		10½	1	0	1	5
Width of rim		½		½		½
Width of canoe from rim to rim (inside)		6½		7½		8
Length of outrigger booms	8	3½	9	4	9	3½
Length of outrigger float	8	9	10	3	9	8
Circumference of outrigger float		9½		10½	1	0½

Further details concerning the medium-sized canoe are as follows: there are nine poles in the platform, including the two booms; they average 4 inches in circumference, and are braced by four cross-bars, each about 1 ft. 1 in. in length, projecting slightly at either side over the width of the platform, which is 12 inches. The height of the platform above the float is 10½ inches. The four stick attachments fastening the booms to the float measure 2 ft. 5 in., and extend 11 inches above the top of the platform.

●483 In moving a fair-sized half-finished canoe from the bush where the initial stages of its manufacture have been carried on to the beach where the outrigger is fitted, a rope of twisted creeper will [401] be fixed to one of the ends, and a number of boys, or sometimes women, will pull it along, small logs being used as rollers. A small half-finished canoe, without outrigger, can be dragged along by one man, or carried, with some effort, on his shoulder. A man will not attempt to carry a complete outrigged canoe alone. If no help is available he holds it by the outrigger-booms near the hull and drags one end along the ground. Usually two men carry it, each taking one end, the outrigger being left free, or held by a 501 third. The outriggers are frequently damaged in use, and require replacement.

Method of use. Although both ends of the canoe are identical in shape, one end always serves as bow and the other as stern, because under ordinary circumstances the canoe is paddled on the right-hand side with the outrigger on the left. But exceptionally I have seen men poling canoes with a fish spear, in which case they have used the spear in the interval between the canoe and the outrigger float, keeping the outrigger on the right.

The paddler sits athwart the canoe, his buttocks resting on both